Grants Chlorinated Solvents Plume Site (Cibola County) Grants, New Mexico

EPA ID# NM0007271768
Site ID: 0605144

EPA REGION 6
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 02

Contacts:
Sai Appaji 214-665-3126

Updated: August 2006

Current Status

On June 30, 2006, the EPA signed the Record of Decision for the Grants Chlorinated Solvents Plume Site. The selected remedy include mitigation for vapor intrusion in buildings above the defined plume and very aggressive thermal and chemical dechlorination technologies to address shallow and deep ground water contamination. The State of New Mexico has provided its support for the selected remedy.

EPA is currently planning the Remedial Design (RD) phase of the project.

Benefits

The shallow aquifer at the Site is contaminated with chlorinated solvents such as tetrachloroethene (PCE), trichloroethene (TCE), cis-1, 2 dichloroethene (cis-1,2 DCE) and dichloroethene (DCE). The source materials in the shallow aquifer present risk to residents in the area. These contaminants are migrating through preferential pathways in the soil and presenting risk from vapor intrusion in homes. A more serious concern is the potential for migration of these contaminants in to the deeper San Andreas aquifer, which is the source of the drinking water for the residents of Grants and Milan.

Cleanup of the Site will protect human health and ensure continued source of safe drinking water to the community.

National Priorities Listing (NPL) History

NPL Inclusion Proposal Date:	March 8, 2004
NPL Final Date:	July 22, 2004

Location: The Grants Chlorinated Solvents Plume Site is located within the city limits of Grants, Cibola County, New Mexico.

Population: The city water wells located two miles from the site provides drinking water to approximately 14,000 residents in Grants, San Rafael and Milan.

Setting: The contamination is believed to be present in a shallow aquifer underlying residential and commercial facilities within the city of Grants.

Principal Pollutants: The primary contaminant of concern is PCE has been found at levels up to 51,000 parts per billion (ppb) in the ground water. The Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), or Federal Drinking Water Standard, that is allowed under the Safe Drinking Water Act is 5 ppb.

- Chlorinated solvents are heavier than water and readily sink in ground water. An exact or calculated volume of the chlorinated solvent (PCE) released into the ground water at the Site is unknown at this time. However, very small amounts of these chemicals can contaminate large volumes of soil and ground water.

- The primary media affected by PCE contamination is the ground water, although residual contamination is still found in the soils up to ten feet. Because the contamination is found only in the subsurface, it is safe for people to live, work, in the area affected.

- The drinking water supply wells for the city are located 2 miles north of the site and have not been impacted by the plume.

Site Map

Human Health Considerations

A Baseline Human Health Risk Assessment (BHHRA) has been performed to determine whether site contaminants pose a current or future risk to human health and the environment in the absence of any remedial action. Based on the BHHRA, the Site poses vapor intrusion risk to residents in indoor air. In addition, the soil and ground water is contaminated and poses unacceptable risk to residents.

Record of Decision

A RECORD OF DECISION WAS SIGNED BY EPA ON JUNE 30, 2006

Site Contacts

EPA Remedial Project Manager:	Sai Appaji	214.665.3126 or 800.533.3508
EPA Site Attorney:	I-Jung Chiang	214.665.2160 or 800.533.3508
EPA Community Involvement:	Bob Johnson	214.665 6676 or 800.533.3508
EPA Region 6 Ombudsman	Arnold Ondarza	303.312.6777
New Mexico Environment Dept:	Steve Jetter	505.827.0072